

# Specialty Gas Material Safety Data Sheet

<b>AIR PRODUCTS AND CHEMICALS, INC.</b> BOX 538 ALLENTOWN, PA 18105 (215) 398-8257	<b>PRODUCT NAME</b> METHANE	
	<b>EMERGENCY PHONE</b> (800) 523-9374; IN PENNSYLVANIA (800) 322-9092	
	<b>TRADE NAME AND SYNONYMS</b> Methane	
<b>ISSUE DATE</b> August 1977 <b>AND REVISIONS</b> Rev: July 1982	<b>CHEMICAL NAME AND SYNONYMS</b> Methane, Methyl Hydride, Marsh Gas	
	<b>FORMULA</b> $\text{CH}_4$	<b>CHEMICAL FAMILY</b> Hydrocarbon

## HEALTH HAZARD DATA

### TIME WEIGHTED AVERAGE EXPOSURE LIMIT

Methane is a simple asphyxiant and has no TLV.

### SYMPTOMS OF EXPOSURE

Ambient oxygen concentrations may be reduced to clearly hazardous levels without obvious symptoms. Symptoms of lack of oxygen may include: increase in depth and frequency of breathing, air hunger, dizziness, headache, nausea, or loss of consciousness. Contact with the liquid may cause frostbite. Symptoms of frostbite are skin color change to gray or white, cold feeling and numbness.

### TOXICOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

Methane is inactive biologically and essentially nontoxic. It may cause asphyxiation by exclusion of oxygen. In very high concentrations, it may have a slight narcotic effect. There exists an immediate fire and explosion hazard when the concentration of methane in the atmosphere exceeds the lower flammable limit (5% by volume). Use a suitable flammable gas meter (explosimeter) calibrated for methane to measure concentrations of the gas in air.

### RECOMMENDED FIRST AID TREATMENT

RESCUE PERSONNEL SHOULD NOT ENTER AREAS CONTAINING HIGH CONCENTRATIONS OF METHANE WITHOUT PROPER PERSONNEL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT. Self-contained breathing apparatus may be required. Extreme hazard of fire and explosion may result from static electrical discharge or other ignition sources. Do not enter areas within the flammable range due to the immediate fire and explosion hazard.

Inhalation: Move the affected person to an uncontaminated atmosphere. If breathing has stopped or is labored, give assisted respiration (e.g., mouth-to-mouth). Supplemental oxygen should be administered. Keep the victim warm and quite. Seek medical assistance promptly.

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